

## CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1           1.     An apparatus comprising:  
2                 a media receptacle to hold a plurality of media objects;  
3                 a clip to engage and hold a media object;  
4                 a suction device mounted to a side of the media receptacle to engage a  
5 first media object within the receptacle and move it to be engaged by the clip; and  
6                 a switch coupled to the clip to cause the suction device to disengage the  
7 first media object.

8           2.     The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the suction device comprises:  
9                 a suction chamber having a perforated plate defining at least a portion  
10 of one side thereof, the perforated plate also defining a portion of an interior surface  
11 of the receptacle; and  
12                 a suction pump coupled to the suction chamber to evacuate the suction  
13 chamber thereby exposing the interior of the receptacle to suction through the  
14 perforated plate.

1           3.     The apparatus of claim 1 further comprising:  
2                 a light box coupled to the receptacle;  
3                 a housing wherein the receptacle is coupled to the housing to move  
4 between a first position and a second position and wherein in the first position the

5 light box is aligned with the clip and in the second position the receptacle is aligned  
6 with the clip.

1 4. The apparatus of claim 3 wherein the light box comprises:  
2 a translucent plate; and  
3 a plurality of thin cold cathode lamps.

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1 5. The apparatus of claim 3 wherein in the first position the receptacle is  
2 recessed with the housing.

1 6. The apparatus of claim 1 further comprising:  
2 a housing defining a scanning window;  
3 a digitizer mounted within the housing, wherein the clip transports  
4 the media object past the scanning window during operation.

1 7. The apparatus of claim 6 wherein the clip further comprises:  
2 a release lever to be engaged by the housing after the clip has  
3 transported the media object past the scanning window, the release lever causing  
4 the clip to release the media object when engaged.

1 8. An apparatus comprising:  
2 a receptacle to receive media objects;

3 a clip coupled to the receptacle to engage and hold a media object  
4 during a digitization process; and  
5 a suction assembly coupled to the receptacle to move the media object  
6 from the receptacle to engagement with the clip.

1 9. The apparatus of claim 8 wherein the suction assembly comprises:  
2 a suction plate defining one side of a suction cavity and a portion of a  
3 side of the receptacle;  
4 a vacuum cylinder coupled to the suction cavity to move the suction  
5 cavity when a pressure reaches a predetermined threshold; and  
6 a suction pump in communication with the suction cavity and the  
7 vacuum cylinder.

1 10. The apparatus of claim 8 wherein the clip comprises:  
2 a pair of jaws defining a cavity;  
3 a spring biasing the pair of jaws together;  
4 a roller aligned with the cavity between the jaws to hold the jaws apart  
5 wherein insertion of a media object between the jaws causes the roller to move into  
6 the cavity such that the jaws close about the media object; and  
7 a release to cause the jaws to separate to release the media object and to  
8 permit the roller to reseal between the jaws.

1 11. The apparatus of claim 10 wherein the clip further comprises:



2 a magnet biased to engage a magnetic switch when a media object is not  
3 within the clip and to disengage a magnetic switch once a media object is within the  
4 clip, wherein the magnetic switch activates the suction pump.

1 12. The apparatus of claim 10 wherein the roller is a sphere or a cylinder.

1 13. The apparatus of claim 8 further comprising:

2 a light box coupled such that the light box is aligned with the clip when  
3 in a first position and the receptacle is aligned with the clip in a second position.

1 14. The apparatus of claim 9 wherein the suction assembly further  
2 comprises a solenoid valve to release pressure in the vacuum cylinder and the  
3 suction chamber when the suction pump shuts off.

1 15. The apparatus of claim 8 further comprising:

2 a magnet coupled to the receptacle to restrain movement of the  
3 receptacle until a force reaches a threshold.